

MER

MENSURAL. *adj.* [from *mensura*, Latin.] Relating to measure.
TO MENSURATE. *v. a.* [from *mensura*, Latin.] To measure; to take the dimension of any thing.
MENSURATION. *n. f.* [from *mensura*, Lat.] The act or practice of measuring; result of measuring.
 After giving the *mensuration* and argumentation of Dr. Cumberland, it would not have been fair to have suppressed those of another prelate.
MENTAL. *adj.* [mentale, French; *mentis*, Lat.] Intellectual; existing in the mind.

What a *mental* power
 This eye shoots forth? How big imagination
 Moves in this lip? To the dumbness of the gesture
 One might interpret.
 So deep the pow'r of these ingredients pierc'd,
 Ev'n to the inmost seat of *mental* light,
 That Adam now enforc'd to close his eyes,
 Sunk down, and all his spirits became entranc'd.
 The metaphor of taste would not have been so general, had there not been a very great conformity between the *mental* taste and that sensitive taste that affects the palate.

If the ideas be not innate, there was a time when the mind was without those principles; for where the ideas are not, there can be no knowledge, no assent, no *mental* or verbal propositions about them.

She kindly talk'd, at least three hours,
 Of plackish forms, and *mental* pow'rs.
 Those inward representations of spirit, thought, love, and hatred, are pure and *mental* ideas, belonging especially to the mind, and carry nothing of shape or sense in them.

MENTALLY. *adv.* [from *mental*.] Intellectually; in the mind; not practically, but in thought or meditation.

If we consider the heart the first principle of life, and *mentally* divide it into its constituent parts, we find nothing but what is in any muscle of the body.

MENTION. *n. f.* [mentions, Fr. *mention*, Latin.] Oral or written expression, or recital of any thing.

Think on me when it shall be well with thee; and make *mention* of me unto Pharaoh, and bring me out of this house.

The Almighty introduces the proposal of his laws rather with the *mention* of some particular acts of kindness, than by reminding mankind of his severity.

TO MENTION. *v. a.* [mentioner, Fr. from the noun.] To write or express in words or writing.

I will *mention* the loving-kindnesses of the Lord, and the praises of the Lord.
 These *mentioned* by their names were princes in their families.

The rest of the acts of Jehoshaphat are written in the book of Jehu, who is *mentioned* in the book of Kings.

All his transgressions shall not be *mentioned*.

MEPHITICAL. *adj.* [mephitis, Lat.] Ill favoured; stinking.

Mephitis exhalations are poisonous or noxious steams issuing out of the earth, from what cause soever.

MERACIOUS. *adj.* [meracius, Latin.] Strong; racy.

MERCABLE. *adj.* [mercor, Lat.] To be sold or bought.

MERCANTANT. *n. f.* [mercatante, Ital.] This word in *Shakespeare* seems to signify a foreigner, or foreign trader.

What is he?
 — A *mercantant*, or else a pedant.

I know not what but formal in apparel.

MERCANTILE. *adj.* Trading; commercial.

The expedition of the Argonauts was partly *mercantile*, partly military.

Let him travel and fulfil the duties of the military or *mercantile* life; let prosperous or adverse fortune call him to the most distant parts of the globe, still let him carry on his knowledge, and the improvement of his soul.

MERCAT. *n. f.* [mercatus, Latin.] Market; trade.

With irresistible majesty and authority our Saviour removed the exchange, and drove the *mercat* out of the temple.

MERCATURE. *n. f.* [mercatura, Latin.] The practice of buying and selling.

MERCENARINESS. *n. f.* [from *mercenary*.] Venality; respect to hire or reward.

To forego the pleasures of sense, and undergo the hardships that attend a holy life, is such a kind of *mercenaryness*, as none but a resigned, believing soul is likely to be guilty of; if fear itself, and even the fear of hell, may be one justifiable motive of men's actions.

MERCENARY. *adj.* [mercenarius, Fr. *mercenarius*, Lat.] Venal; hired; sold for money; acting only for hire.

Many of our princes, woe the while!
 Lie drown'd, and foked in *mercenary* blood.

Divers Almain, who served in the garisons, being merely *mercenary*, did easily incline to the strongest.

The appellation of servant imports a *mercenary* temper, and

denotes such an one as makes his reward both the sole motive and measure of his obedience.

I was not for nothing I the crown resign'd;
 I still must own a *mercenary* mind.

MERCENARY. *n. f.* [mercenarius, Fr.] A hireling; one retained or serving for pay.

He a poor *mercenary* serves for bread;
 For all his travel, only cloth'd and fed.

MERCER. *n. f.* [mercier, French.] One who sells silks.

The draper and *mercier* may measure religion as they please, and the weaver may cast her upon what loom he pleases.

MERCERY. *n. f.* [mercerie, Fr. from *mercier*.] Trade of mercers; dealing in silks.

The *mercery* is gone from out of Lombard-street and Cheapside into Paternoster-row and Fleet-street.

TO MERCHAND. *v. n.* [marchander, French.] To traffick by traffick.

Ferdinando *merchand* with France for the restoring Rouffignion and Perpignan, oppugnered to them.

MERCHANDISE. *n. f.* [marchandise, French.]
 1. Traffick; commerce; trade.
 If a son, that is sent by his father about *merchandise*, fall into some leud action, his wickedness, by your rule, should be imputed upon his father.

If he pay thee to the utmost farthings, thou shalt forgive nothing: it is *merchandise*, and not forgiveness, to restore him that does as much as you can require.

2. Wares; any thing to be bought or sold.
 Fair when her breast, like a rich laden bark
 With precious *merchandise*, the forth doth lay.

Thou shalt not tell her at all for money; thou shalt not make *merchandise* of her.

As for any *merchandise* you have brought, ye shall have your return in *merchandise* or in gold.

So active a people will always have money, whilst they can find what *merchandise* they please to Mexico.

TO MERCHANDISE. *v. n.* To trade; to traffick; to exercise commerce.

The Phenicians, of whose exceeding *merchandizing* we read so much in ancient histories, were Canaanites, whose very name signifies merchants.

MER

MERCURY. *n. f.* [mercurius, Latin.] A plant.

The leaves of the *mercury* are crenated, and grow by pairs opposite: the cup of the flower consists of one leaf, which expands and is cut into three segments; these are male and female in different places: the flowers of the male grow in long spikes, and consist of many stamina and apices, which are loaded with farina; the ovary of the female plant becomes a testiculated fruit, having a single round seed in each cell.

Herb *mercury* is of an emollient nature, and is eaten in the manner of spinach, which, when cultivated in a garden, it greatly excels.

MERCURY. *n. f.* [mercurius, Latin.]
 1. The chemist's name for quicksilver is *mercury*.
 The gall of animals and *mercury* kill worms; and the water in which *mercury* is boiled has this effect.

2. Sprightly qualities.
 Thus the *mercury* of man is fix'd,
 Strong grows the virtue with his nature mix'd;
 The drops cements what else were too refin'd,
 And in one inext body acts with mind.

3. A news-paper.
 It is now applied, in cant phrase, to the carriers of news and pamphlets.

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Think not their rage to desperate 't essay
 An element more *merciless* than they.

What God so mean,
 So *merciless* a tyrant to obey!

Whatever ravages a *merciless* distemper may commit, she shall have one man as much her admirer as ever.

The torrent *merciless* imbibes
 Commissions, perquisites, and bribes.

MERCILESSLY. *adv.* [from *merciless*.] In a manner void of pity.

MERCILESSNESS. *n. f.* [from *merciless*.] Want of pity.

MERCURIAL. *adj.* [mercurialis, Lat.]
 1. Formed under the influence of mercury; active; sprightly.
 I know the shape of 's leg: This is his hand,
 His foot *mercurial*, his martial thigh,
 The brawns of Hercules.

This youth was such a *mercurial*, as could make his own part, if at any time he chanced to be out.

Tully considered the dispositions of a sincere, more ignorant, and less *mercurial* nation, by dwelling on the pathetic part.

2. Consisting of quicksilver.
MERCURIFICATION. *adj.* [from *mercury*.] The act of mixing any thing with quicksilver.

I add the ways of *mercurification*.

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